

Ch. 24 – Life in the Emerging Urban Society AP European History

After reading and studying this chapter, you should be able to:

- explain what life was like in the cities in mid-19th century Europe and how it changed.
- describe the impact of urbanization on various classes of people in Western society in the 19th century.
- discuss changes in science and public health from this period.

Review questions

1. To what extent was industrialization responsible for the deplorable conditions of the cities in the early 19th century?

Fast-growing cities were the result of industrialization, complete with the problems associated with them. Cities = better shipping facilities and supply of coal and iron, also closer to work force.

2. What were the reasons for the rebuilding of Paris and who was responsible for this change?

Napoleon III (r. 1848-1870)

Employment, improve living conditions,
Testify to the power of his empire

Improvements:

Organized, broad streets, slums
destroyed, water and waste disposal
Better housing codes

3. Marx claimed that as a result of industrialization there was an increasing polarization of society into rich and poor. Do the facts warrant such a conclusion? (Support your answer with specifics)

No, there was an increase in the standard of living for the average person as wages doubled between 1850 and 1906. The upper middle class = 50% of all income (20-25%), the gap was also less different between rich and poor in 1900 than it had been in 1700, there were also many sub-social classes that developed between rich and poor that acted as a social ladder

4. What were the interests, motives, and lifestyle of the working class and how were they changing by the late 19th century?

Upper working class was strongly committed to the family and to economic improvement, they saved money regularly, worried about their kids' education, wanted good housing, frowned upon heavy drinking, sexual permissiveness

The lower class favored drinking, spectator sports such as racing, soccer, gambling, music, vaudevilles,

Church attendance declined in urban cities

5. Why was there a decline in illegitimacy after 1850?

Increase use of birth control

Pregnancy more often led to marriage than in earlier times, spurred on by growing sense of responsibility and improved economic standing

6. Why did middle-class men marry late?

Pre-occupied with money, they wanted to establish themselves first

7. What was the social and economic position of women in the 19th century?

Were they better off than in pre-industrial society?

After 1800 women were more likely to stay at home and care for their children,

Women faced economic inequality and injustice due to the gender division of labor

Married women subordinated by law to husbands with no legal identity (could not own land)

8. What changes in child care and the attitudes toward children in the 19th century?

As infant mortality decreased, parents took more interest in kids. More people breast fed their own kids, swaddling ended, and stronger emotional ties were established.

Parents wanted a better life for their children, although some parents were too concerned with their kids, causing many to feel trapped.

9. In what practical ways did breakthroughs in scientific inquiry transform life for the general population of the 19th century?

Pasteur's work helped reduce/end some disease and sickness

Faraday's electromagnetism work enabled the development of the telegraph, electric lights, street cars

Dyes from coal coke, generators

Chemistry codified elements

Stimulated scientific inquiry that produced discoveries

10. How did the work of *realist* writers differ from previous writers?

Their work offered a more concise portrayal of life during this time

Define the following key concepts and terms

1. antiseptic principle – by English surgeon Joseph Lister (1827-1912) – found that chemical disinfectants applied to wounds would kill germs. Used sterilization of hands, instruments, and clothing, etc.
2. Darwin's theory of biological evolution – He believed that all life had gradually evolved from a common ancestral origin in unending struggle for survival, he argued that variations in a species that prove useful are selected naturally and gradually spread to the entire species through reproduction

3. labor aristocracy – highly skilled workers who made up about 15 % of the working classes, construction bosses, factory foremen, men who had risen from the ranks and were proud of their achievement, also included traditional highly skilled handicraft trades that were not impacted by factories such as jewelers, printers, consistently enlarged by new kinds of skilled workers, strongly committed to family, saved money, valued good housing, education, see middle class morality
4. realist movement – Artists and writers abandoned the emotional, personal viewpoint of the romantics for strict, scientific objectivity, and observed and recorded content to let the facts speak for themselves. Emerged in mid 1800s-1890s
5. miasmatic theory – the belief that smells and odors caused disease
6. middle-class morality – Much like the Calvinist work ethic as people became more concerned with their children, their education, their homes, etc. They frowned on drinking and sexual permissiveness
7. Comte's positivism – Intellectual activity moves through 3 stages – theological, metaphysical, scientific – for example: explanation of cosmic patterns, applied to society, it would discover the laws of human relations and allow expert social scientists to impose a disciplined harmony on less-enlightened citizens.

Explain how each of the following people contributed to the improvement of 19th century life.

1. Edwin Chadwick – English reformer in charge of relief to paupers in Britain's Poor Laws, believed disease and death caused poverty and could be prevented by cleaning up the urban environment; his work was the basis of Britain's first public health laws – sewer systems to carry away waste!
2. Louis Pasteur – 1822-1895 - French chemist, found that heating a beverage would kill organisms that cause fermentation, his work was later applied to medical research
3. Robert Koch – German doctor in 1870s who developed pure cultures of harmful bacteria and described their lifestyles – led to the identification of causes of diseases and eventually to vaccines
4. Jean-Baptiste Lamarck – 1774-1829 – said all forms of life had arisen through a long process of continuous adjustment to the environment; he thought parents acquired characteristic would be passed on to their offspring; paved the way for Darwin
5. Charles Darwin – 1809-1882 – Wrote On the Origin of Species by the Means of Natural Selection, evolutionary theory, influenced by Lamarck
6. Sigmund Freud – 1856-1939 – Viennese founder of psychoanalysis, Hysteria of people is based on childhood experience, Oedipal tensions (son vs. father for mother's love), repressed sexual energy
7. Gustave Flaubert – 1821-1880 - Wrote Madame Bovary – story of frustrated middle class housewife who has an affair and is betrayed by her lover
8. Emile Zola – 1840-1902 – Realist writer – sympathized with socialism, famous for his seamy, animal-like view of working class life; believed heredity and environment determined human action